



## Welcome

### Welcome

### Location & Lodging

### Travel

### Area Information

### Schedule & Program

### Tours

### Call for Abstracts

### Registration

### Contact Us

The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Virginia Tech invites you to join your colleagues in scenic Blacksburg, Virginia, nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains, for the 2013 NACTA Conference. The conference will begin on Tuesday evening with a welcome reception and culminate on Friday with the banquet. Sandwiched in between will be oral presentations, poster sessions, roundtables, and tours showcasing student service learning, internships, capstone experiences, and collaborative teaching efforts that cross disciplinary boundaries. An afternoon of tours will provide an opportunity to see Virginia Tech's agricultural facilities, enjoy local food and meet local artisans, taste Virginia wine, and tour farming operations in the Shenandoah Valley. Hotel accommodations and sessions will be held at The Inn at Virginia Tech and Skelton Conference Center, the premier hotel in Blacksburg and the only hotel located on the campus of Virginia Tech.





## Location & Lodging

[Welcome](#)

[Location & Lodging](#)

[Travel](#)

[Area Information](#)

[Schedule & Program](#)

[Tours](#)

[Call for Abstracts](#)

[Registration](#)

[Contact Us](#)

### **The Inn at Virginia Tech and Skelton Conference Center**

901 Price's Fork  
Blacksburg, Virginia

The Inn at Virginia Tech and Skelton Conference Center is the only hotel located on the beautiful Virginia Tech campus in Blacksburg, Virginia, and offers convenient surroundings, state-of-the-art technology, and a world-class hotel with 147 elegant guest rooms including three suites. The facility sits on 25 lush acres within walking distance to the main campus and adjacent to the campus duck pond. Stroll down the hill to the nine-hole golf course or plan to play Virginia Tech's Pete Dye River Course, located a short distance from Blacksburg. Amenities abound at The Inn and include a fitness center and in room spa services. The hotel offers delicious fare and healthful selections for breakfast, lunch, and dinner in Preston's restaurant. Enjoy light meals and beverages in the hotel's lounge, Continental Divide.

The Inn adjoins the Skelton Conference Center where you'll find a spacious 8,832 square-foot ballroom, reception hall, and 10 dedicated meeting rooms especially designed for events and conferences. The complex is within easy walking distance to downtown Blacksburg, or guests may use the complimentary shuttle service.

A block of lodging rooms has been reserved at The Inn at a special rate of \$95/single or double. To reserve your room, please call the hotel directly at **540-231-8000** or toll free at **877-200-3360** and mention you are attending NACTA. Reservations can also be made online through The Inn's web site at [online reservations](#), or you may enter the group code: **NACTA**. This special rate is available only until **May 27, 2013**, or until the block fills.

See the [Area Information](#) section for more information about the Blacksburg area.



### **Campus**

Conference attendees will also have the option to lodge in residential housing on the Virginia Tech campus. Lodging rooms are available in the East Ambler Johnston Residence Hall on campus, and the fees vary by room type.

#### **East Ambler Johnston**

All guests will be staying in East Ambler Johnson Hall. All rooms are air-conditioned and include a private bathroom. Rooms are equipped with local telephone service, Ethernet connections, and cable connections are available in the rooms. All beds are extra-long, twin-size. Guests have the option of staying in a single or double room. If you choose a single room, no one will be assigned to the room. If you choose a double room, you will need to let us know your roommate or one will be assigned to the room.

Single room: \$247.80; Double room: \$214.20. Rates shown include lodging for 4 nights,

arriving on June 25th, checking out on June 29th. Dorm check-in will be available at the 24-hour hospitality desk located in Harper Hall. Additional information will be sent after dorm lodging reservations have been confirmed for each individual.

You must [register](#) and pay for the residential housing plan in advance. The registration deadline date for residential housing plan purchase is **June 10, 2013**.

More information on the dorms is available at: [www.housing.vt.edu/halls/](http://www.housing.vt.edu/halls/)

---

### **Overflow Lodging**

A block of rooms has also been reserved at the Holiday Inn University – Blacksburg at a rate of \$95/night (plus 12% tax), single/double occupancy. This special conference Rate will be available until **May 24, 2013**. To make reservations online visit: [Holiday Inn Reservations](#) or call the hotel directly at **540-552-7001**, and ask for the NACTA block. The Holiday Inn is located across the street from the Inn at Virginia Tech and Skelton Conference Center.

Holiday Inn University  
900 Prices Fork Road  
Blacksburg, VA 24060  
540.552.7001  
[www.holidayinn.com/blacksburgva](http://www.holidayinn.com/blacksburgva)

A block of rooms has also been reserved at the Hilton Garden Inn Blacksburg at a rate of \$95/night (plus 12% tax), single/double occupancy. This special conference rate will be available until **June 19, 2013**. To make reservations, please call the hotel directly at **540-552-5005**, and ask for the NACTA block.

Hilton Garden Inn Blacksburg  
900 Plantation Road  
Blacksburg, VA 24060  
540-552-5005  
<http://hiltongardeninn3.hilton.com/>





## Travel

Welcome

Location & Lodging

Travel

Area Information

Schedule & Program

Tours

Call for Abstracts

Registration

Contact Us

### Getting to Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, VA

#### BY AIR

The closest major airport is Roanoke Regional Airport ([www.roanokeairport.com/](http://www.roanokeairport.com/)), about 38 miles northeast of Blacksburg. It is serviced by Allegiant Air, US Airways, United Airlines, or Delta, which connect to dozens of leading metropolitan cities (Orlando, Atlanta, Philadelphia, Washington, Chicago, Detroit, Cincinnati, and Charlotte).

#### Ground Transportation Available:

The following are options for any ground transportation you may need after your arrival. These services can be found on the first floor of the terminal near the baggage claim area.

Roanoke Airport Transportation Service ([www.roanokeats.com](http://www.roanokeats.com)) provides easy access to Blacksburg and the Inn at Virginia Tech. The airport is approximately 45 minutes away from scenic Blacksburg.

Reservations call: 1-800-288-1958 or 540-345-7710

Services available include shuttle and private car. Reservations in advance are required, offering 24 hour service.

- Shuttle: Approximately \$66 per person to Blacksburg (or \$33/person for 2 people). Shuttle stops at the Inn at Virginia Tech, Holiday Inn, and Squires Student Center.
- Private Car: \$72 per person to Blacksburg. Car will take passenger anywhere in Blacksburg.

Smart Way Bus Service ([www.smartwaybus.com](http://www.smartwaybus.com))  
1-800-388-7005 or 540-982-6622

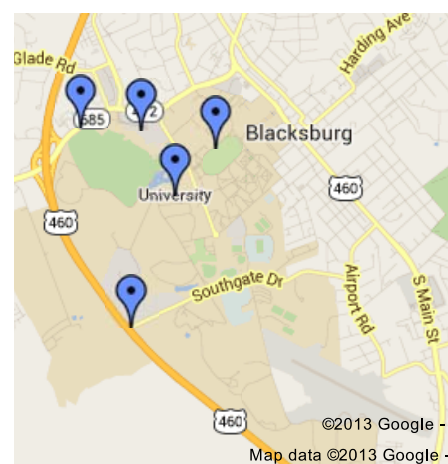
Service is \$4 per person to Blacksburg. The bus operates Monday through Saturday (does not run on Sunday) at regularly scheduled times. Bus drops off on the Virginia Tech campus at the Squires Student Center stop. Visit the website for the exact route and times.

#### BY CAR

Driving directions. Google Maps: <http://maps.google.com>

The Inn at Virginia Tech and Skelton Conference Center address is 901 Prices Fork Road, Blacksburg, VA 24061.

From I-81 (southbound or northbound): Exit 118B Blacksburg/460 West. Exit Prices Fork Rd/Downtown, Route 412 East. Right at first traffic light into hotel entrance.



View [Virginia Tech Campus](#) in a larger map

**Car Rental Information:**

Alamo ([www.alamo.com](http://www.alamo.com))

Avis ([www.avis.com](http://www.avis.com))

Budget ([www.budget.com](http://www.budget.com))

Dollar ([www.dollarcar.com](http://www.dollarcar.com))

Enterprise ([www.enterprise.com](http://www.enterprise.com))

Hertz ([www.hertz.com](http://www.hertz.com))

National ([www.nationalcar.com](http://www.nationalcar.com))

**Cab Services:**

The following cab services are available from the Roanoke Regional Airport.

- C'artier Limousine 540-982-5466
- Liberty Cab 540-344-1776
- Yellow Cab 540-345-7711



## Area Information

[Welcome](#)

[Location & Lodging](#)

[Travel](#)

[Area Information](#)

[Schedule & Program](#)

[Tours](#)

[Call for Abstracts](#)

[Registration](#)

[Contact Us](#)

Virginia Tech in beautiful Blacksburg, Va., is located in the New River Valley just a half an hour southwest of Roanoke. The Blue Ridge Parkway and the Appalachian Trail are nearby the plateau where the town sits between the Blue Ridge and Allegheny mountains. Blacksburg has a small town charm with many big-city amenities including world class dining, fine cultural activities and shopping, and unique recreational adventures.



### **Regional areas of interest include:**

#### **The Cascades Falls**

A scenic, two mile hike to a beautiful 69 ft. waterfall.

#### **The Blue Ridge Parkway**

This very popular unit of the National Park System is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year. The parkway winds 469 miles through mountain meadows and features remarkable vistas.

#### **The New River**

Surrounded by scenic mountains and ideal for canoeing, the meandering New River is considered to be one of the oldest rivers in the world.

#### **Smithfield Plantation**

This 1774 plantation home is located on the edge of the Virginia Tech campus and is a living document of the rich history of the area.

#### **Taubman Museum of Art**

Located in the heart of downtown Roanoke, this contemporary structure evokes the drama of the surrounding mountainous landscape.

For more information about the Virginia Tech campus, visit: [www.vt.edu/about/](http://www.vt.edu/about/)

For more information about opportunities for outdoor activities in the area, visit: [www.roanokeoutside.com](http://www.roanokeoutside.com). Other recreational attractions are featured at <http://www.stepinit.com>.

Area YouTube videos

[The Pete Dye River Course of Virginia Tech](#)  
[Virginia Cascades Slideshow](#)  
[Pandapas Pond - Poverty Creek Trail](#)

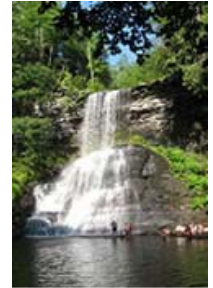
For further information about Virginia attractions, visit [www.virginia.org/](http://www.virginia.org/)

### **WEATHER**

The following website could be helpful before you pack - [www.weather.com/weather/local/24061](http://www.weather.com/weather/local/24061).

### **VIRGINIA TOURISM**

Blacksburg, Virginia is a prime vacation destination, so you might want to bring the family and come early or stay the weekend to enjoy this special place. For local activities and information on nearby highlights, visit: [www.virginia.org/site/cities.asp?city=Blacksburg](http://www.virginia.org/site/cities.asp?city=Blacksburg).







## Schedule & Program

[Welcome](#)

[Location & Lodging](#)

[Travel](#)

[Area Information](#)

[Schedule & Program](#)

[Tours](#)

[Call for Abstracts](#)

[Registration](#)

[Contact Us](#)

### Download Files:

[Oral Presentation Schedule](#) (PDF - 118KB)

[Poster Session Schedule](#) (PDF -150KB)

### Schedule At-A-Glance

#### Tuesday, 6/25/13

**1:00 - 4:00 PM** NACTA Exec and DOCE Meetings

**6:00 - 9:00 PM** Opening reception

#### Wednesday, 6/26/13

**7:30 - 8:00 AM** Continental Breakfast

**8:00 - 9:30 AM** Welcome and Keynote

**9:30 - 10:30 AM** Poster session and break

**10:30 - 12:00 PM** Concurrent sessions

**12:00 - 1:30 PM** Lunch

**2:00 - 3:30 PM** Concurrent sessions

**3:30 - 4:30 PM** Poster session and break

**5:30 - 8:00 PM** BBQ

#### Thursday, 6/27/13

**7:30 - 8:00 AM** Continental Breakfast

**8:00 - 9:30 AM** Blue ribbon presentation

**9:30 - 10:30 AM** Poster session and break

**10:30 - 12:00 PM** Concurrent sessions

**12:00 - 5:00 PM** Tours (boxed lunch provided)  
Dinner on your own

#### Friday, 6/28/13

**7:30 - 8:00 AM** Continental Breakfast

**8:30 - 9:30 AM** Committee meetings

**9:30 - 10:30 AM** Poster session and break

**10:30 - 12:00 PM** Concurrent sessions

**12:00 - 2:00 PM** Lunch/business meeting

**2:00 - 4:00 PM** Workshops

**6:00 - 9:00 PM** Banquet

#### Saturday, 6/29/13

**8:00 - 11:00 AM** Exec meeting





## Tours

[Welcome](#)

[Location & Lodging](#)

[Travel](#)

[Area Information](#)

[Schedule & Program](#)

[Tours](#)

[Call for Abstracts](#)

[Registration](#)

[Contact Us](#)

**NOTICE:** Tour spaces are limited and are being filled quickly! If you are unable to select a tour at registration, please contact Leslie Thornton-O'Brien ([lthornto@vt.edu](mailto:lthornto@vt.edu)) to be placed on a waitlist. Please provide your name, your first and second choice for a tour, as well as the name of any paid guest(s) and the first and second choice of the tour they would like to attend. For additional questions regarding the NACTA conference, please do not hesitate to contact Leslie Thornton-O'Brien at [lthornto@vt.edu](mailto:lthornto@vt.edu) or 540-231-9617.

### Historic Blacksburg Tour

This tour will include visits to historic homes and plantations in the Blacksburg area. Participants will also learn about the Blacksburg area's role in the western movement and antebellum periods of American history. Draper's Meadow (modern day Blacksburg) was the first English settlement in the "Western Waters" (Mississippi River drainage). The settlement was destroyed by the Shawnee Indians in 1755, and Mary Draper Ingles was abducted and taken to Kentucky. Her subsequent escape and trek home through the wilderness and along the rivers is a Southwest Virginia legend. The area was also at the center of the French and Indian and Revolutionary War periods of American history. Historic [Smithfield](#) was the first frame home in the region. Smithfield and [Solitude](#) (both located on the Virginia Tech campus) were homes to four Virginia Governors, and nearby Kentland Plantation was the home to a delegate to the Constitutional Convention and later James Randall Kent's large hemp, flax and cattle plantation. [Kentland Farm](#) is now Virginia Tech's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences farm facility, including 3200 acres of land used for hands-on instruction, research, and feed for teaching and research animals at Virginia Tech.

### New River Valley Farm Tour

The New River Valley farm tour highlights the farm practices of the intermountain area of the Appalachian's. The visits on the tour will include a grassland dairy, an equine operation, and cow calf/crop production enterprise. These family farm units showcase the best practices of agricultural systems that address the rolling landscape of the region. The tour will be led by Joe Guthrie, a faculty member, farmer, and a valley native whose family farm has been in continuous operation since the mid-1700's.

### Civic Agriculture and Food systems Tour

The Civic Agriculture and Food Systems (CAFS) minor in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Virginia Tech highlights community-university partnerships through service-learning, fostering civic engagement in the agro-food system. This field trip option will explore two examples of service-learning and one example of community food security being addressed by Virginia Tech's students. The first stop will be [Glade Road Growing](#), an urban intensive sustainable farm, which is quickly becoming an agricultural hallmark of innovative VT graduates. The second stop will include an option of service for participants to fully engage in the experiences and capstone projects of students enrolled in the CAFS minor at the Hale-Y Community Gardens. Hale-Y is a dynamic community garden established through a community-university-non-profit partnership. The final stop will be at the Smithfield Student Garden, created by the Student Food Corp, which functions as a space for undergraduate research, addressing community food security through fresh produce donations to a local food pantry and members hosting monthly community meals. Participants interested in incorporating service-learning and community-based experiential curriculum will get hands on experience and hear the stories of students, faculty, and community partners engaged in this innovative approach to the undergraduate curriculum.



7/1/13

NACTA - June 25-29, 2013 - The Inn at Virginia Tech and Skelton Conference Center - Blacksburg, Virginia

### **Floyd County Sustainable Community Tour**

Participants will be enjoy a spectacular mountain setting in Floyd County, VA while they enjoy a tour and wine tasting at [Chateau Morrisette](#). Wine experts will regal participants with information about Virginia-grown grapes as well as the process for making wine in Virginia. Chateau Morrisette features a restaurant, gift shop, gardens, and winery where more than 60,000 cases of wine are produced each year. After a winery tour and tasting, participants will tour the downtown community of Floyd, which includes unique shopping opportunities and multiple music and art venues with the Jacksonville Center 1/2 mile from downtown.

Continuing & Professional Education @ Virginia Tech



## Call for Abstracts

[Welcome](#)

[Location & Lodging](#)

[Travel](#)

[Area Information](#)

[Schedule & Program](#)

[Tours](#)

[Call for Abstracts](#)

[Registration](#)

[Contact Us](#)

### Call for NACTA/DOCE Abstracts for the 2013 Conference

**Submission deadline: March 20, 2013.**

The 2013 NACTA conference will be held June 25-29 at Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA. This conference will be a joint meeting with the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), Division of Community and Education (DOCE).

The theme for the 2013 NACTA Conference is **"Crossing Disciplinary Boundaries."** Accepted abstracts that address the theme will be given first priority for oral presentations. Authors will be given the option to request an oral presentation, but it will be up to the host committee to make the final selection & timetabling of oral presentations. All other abstracts will be poster presentations.

The 2013 NACTA Conference will serve as a venue for faculty in agricultural, environmental, natural, and life sciences to share their information on the theme of **"Crossing Disciplinary Boundaries."** as well as to share innovative teaching or advising ideas, scholarship of teaching, and other pertinent information. Abstracts are to fall within one of the four following topic areas:

**Innovative Teaching Approaches** - Teaching that facilitates learner-centeredness, shared power, deep processing, student engagement, empowerment, and responsibility. New creative teaching ideas may include interdisciplinary learning, problem-based learning, service-learning, and technology-enhanced learning.

**Learning Outcomes** - Scholarly assessment of students, courses, curricula, and programs. Empirical evidence of impact can be documented through an array of dependent variables because learning develops human capital in a variety of forms, such as knowledge, problem-solving skills, attitudes, motivation, responsibility, communication skills, personal development, teamwork, and interpersonal skills.

**Scholarly Research Approaches** - The Scholarship of Teaching and Learning is grounded in how professors systematically investigate the teaching-learning process. Challenges, critical reflections, and effective applications of action research methods and procedures can be highlighted regarding the use of interviews, observations, journals, content analyses of student work, achievement or performance measures, and questionnaires.

### Abstract Format

The abstract should be a concise summary of factual information and not simply a general description of what the author plans to present. A high-quality abstract contains the following key elements (without designating them as such): (1) a brief introduction, including objectives of the presentation; (2) relevant experimental conditions indicating the scope of study or survey (authors of predominately philosophical works may substitute other appropriate criteria); (3) observations, results, or data (however, data should be in summary form and not presented in tables or graphs) - philosophical abstracts must demonstrate application of said philosophy; and (4) a concise summary.

### Guidelines for NACTA/DOCE Abstracts

- Abstracts are limited to **one paragraph of 250 words**, not including title and by-lines.
- Create the abstract with MS Word or compatible software, using Times New Roman, 12 point font or similar



- Title of abstract should be brief and precise and in bold.
- The author(s) name(s) and affiliation(s) follows the title. The first author/submitting author is the contact author.
- Body of the abstract is single spaced in 12 point Times New Roman font or similar.
- File name of the abstract follows this naming format for submitting as a NACTA abstract: NACTA12XXX.doc where the XXX are three initials representing the submitting author, or for DOCE abstracts files must be named DOCE12XXX.doc where XXX are three initials representing the submitting author.
- Use single space.
- **Do not** include illustrations or bibliographical references in the abstract.
- Indicate if you would like to be considered for an oral presentation.
- If an author submits multiple proposals, the topic and content of each must differ substantially.
- The abstract should stand alone and contain valuable information for both those in attendance as well as those who read it in the *NACTA Journal*. Abstracts are subject to editing before publication.

An abstract is unacceptable if it:

- Contains significant grammatical errors and (or) meaningless statements such as: "The results will be presented."
- Includes no results or statements relating to the objective(s).
- Fails to comply with submission requirements.
- Presents opinion/speculation with no demonstrated use in a teaching or advising experience.

**Abstract Submission**

**All abstracts must be submitted at this website:**  
**<http://nactaabs.expressacademic.org/login.php>**

**Deadline: March 20, 2013.** The author submitting the abstract will be notified of its status four weeks after the deadline.

---

If you have any questions contact the NACTA Journal Editor, Rick Parker, at [NACTAeditor@pmt.org](mailto:NACTAeditor@pmt.org).

---



## Registration

### Welcome

### Location & Lodging

### Travel

### Area Information

### Schedule & Program

### Tours

### Call for Abstracts

### Registration

### Contact Us

Registration includes participation in all conference events, conference materials, selected tour, opening reception, BBQ, continental breakfasts, and lunches. Separate companion tickets can be purchased for an additional fee.

**NOTICE:** Tour spaces are limited and are being filled quickly! If you are unable to select a tour at registration, please contact Leslie Thornton-O'Brien ([lthornto@vt.edu](mailto:lthornto@vt.edu)) to be placed on a waitlist. Please provide your name, your first and second choice for a tour, as well as the name of any paid guest(s) and the first and second choice of the tour they would like to attend. For additional questions regarding the NACTA conference, please do not hesitate to contact Leslie Thornton-O'Brien at [lthornto@vt.edu](mailto:lthornto@vt.edu) or 540-231-9617.

#### Registration Fees:

Member \$375 (\$425 after 5/24/13)  
 Non-Member \$450 (\$500 after 5/24/13)  
 Student \$275 (\$325 after 5/24/13)

#### Optional Fees:

\$150 Guest fee for all evening events (Reception, BBQ and Banquet)  
 \$75 Guest Friday Banquet Only  
 \$60 Guest BBQ Only

Registration deadline is **June 18, 2013**.

#### Payment Options

Credit Card:  
[Register Online](#)

All Other Payments:  
[Download PDF](#)

To register using our on-line system, your browser must accept cookies. For more about cookies, see [www.cookiecentral.com/faq](http://www.cookiecentral.com/faq).

View our [Privacy Policy](#).

**Refund and Cancellation Policy:** Requests for refunds will be honored when received seven calendar days prior to the program. However, another person may be substituted at any time for this program. A \$60 administrative fee will be deducted for cancellations. In the unlikely event that this program is cancelled or postponed due to insufficient enrollments or unforeseen circumstances, the university will fully refund registration fees but cannot be held responsible for any other expenses, including cancellation or change charges assessed by airlines, hotels, travel agencies, or other organizations.

For weather or disaster-related program cancellation or postponement information, please call **(540) 231-9489**.

**NOTE:** If you prefer to pay by check (There will be a \$50 processing fee for all returned checks) and mail your registration, or fax with a credit card payment, you may download a [PDF](#). Payment of registration fees is required prior to program attendance. Registration will be processed when payment is received.

7/1/13

NACTA - June 25-29, 2013 - The Inn at Virginia Tech and Skelton Conference Center - Blacksburg, Virginia

If you need assistance, please call us at **(540) 231-5182**.

---

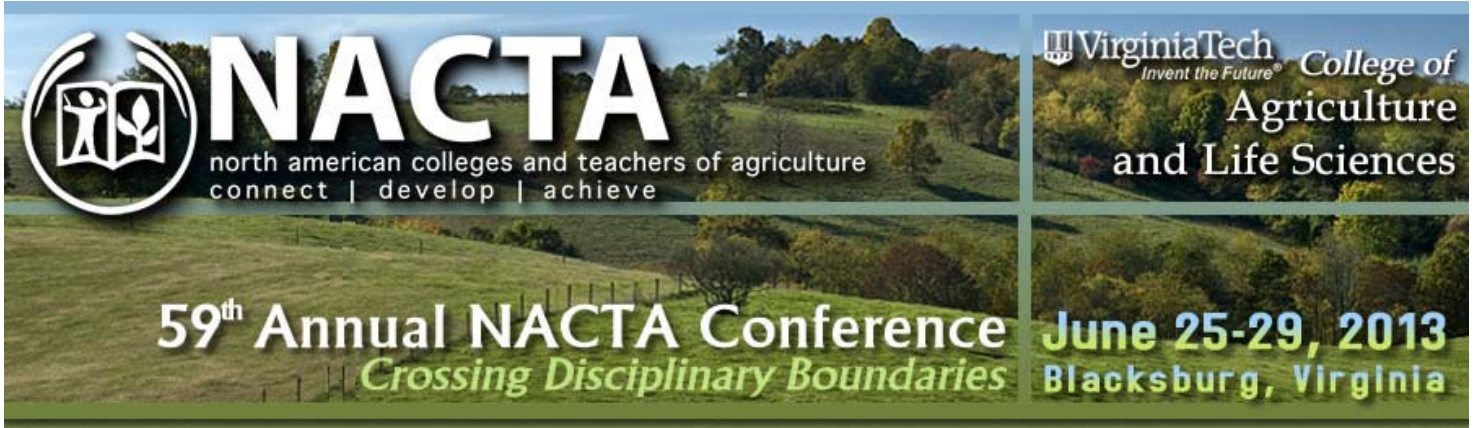
Virginia Tech does not discriminate against employees, students, or applicants on the basis of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, disability, age, veteran status, national origin, religion, or political affiliation. Anyone having questions concerning discrimination should contact the Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Office. If you are a person with a disability and require any auxiliary aids, services, or other accommodations for this program, please discuss your accommodation needs with Leslie Thornton-O'Brien at (540) 231-9617 or TDD 1-800-828-1120 by two weeks prior to the conference.

---

The information you provide is subject to the Freedom of Information Act guidelines.

Continuing & Professional Education @ Virginia Tech





## Contact Us

[Welcome](#)

[Location & Lodging](#)

[Travel](#)

[Area Information](#)

[Schedule & Program](#)

[Tours](#)

[Call for Abstracts](#)

[Registration](#)

[Contact Us](#)

### **For questions regarding the conference:**

Leslie Thornton-O'Brien  
Continuing and Professional Education  
[lthornto@vt.edu](mailto:lthornto@vt.edu), 540-231-9617

